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Attorneys for Complainant

BEFORE THE BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING AND PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. PT-2011-2822

BLISS U. EZIKE A.K.A. BLISS UCHENNA EZIKE A.K.A. BLISS U. UNAKA 1900 Ascot Way, Apt. 214 Vallejo, CA 94591

ACCUSATION

Psychiatric Technician License No. PT 36055

Respondent.

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Complainant alleges:

1. Teresa Bello-Jones, J.D., M.S.N., R.N. (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, Department of Consumer Affairs.

PARTIES

2. On or about June 9, 2011, the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians issued Psychiatric Technician License Number PT 36055 to Bliss U. Ezike, also known as Bliss Uchenna Ezike, also known as Bliss U. Unaka (Respondent). The Psychiatric Technician License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in this Accusation and will expire on March 31, 2013, unless renewed.

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JURISDICTION

- 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.
- 4. Section 4520 of the Business and Professions Code (Code) provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may discipline any licensed psychiatric technician for any reason provided in Article 3 (commencing with section 4520) of the Psychiatric Technicians Law (Code ' 4500, et. seq.).
- 5. Section 118, subdivision (b), of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a license shall not deprive the Board jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary action during the period within which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued or reinstated.
- 6. Section 4545 of the Code provides that the Board may renew an expired license at any time within four years after the expiration.

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

7. Section 4521 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

"The board may suspend or revoke a license issued under this chapter [the Psychiatric Technicians Law (Bus. & Prof Code, 4500, et seq.)] for any of the following reasons:

- "(a) Unprofessional conduct, which includes but is not limited to any of the following:
- "(5) Use any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 (commencing with Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code, or any dangerous drug as defined in Section 4022, or alcoholic beverages, to an extent or in a manner dangerous or injurious to himself or herself, any other person, or the public or to the extent that the use impairs his or her ability to conduct with safety to the public the practice authorized by his or her license.
- "(6) Be convicted of a criminal offense involving the falsification of records concerning prescription, possession, or consumption of any of the substances described in paragraphs (4) and (5), in which event the record of the conviction is conclusive evidence of the conviction. The

board may inquire into the circumstances surrounding the commission of the crime in order to fix the degree of discipline.

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- "(f) Conviction of any offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a psychiatric technician, in which event the record of the conviction shall be conclusive evidence of the conviction. The board may inquire into the circumstances surrounding the commission of the crime in order to fix the degree of discipline."
- 8. Section 490 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may suspend or revoke a license when it finds that the licensee has been convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a licensed psychiatric technician.

COST RECOVERY

9. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that a Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION

(Substantially Related Conviction) (Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 490 and 4521, subd. (f))

10. Respondent has subjected his Psychiatric Technician License to disciplinary action under Code sections 490 and 4521, subdivision (f), in that he was convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a psychiatric technician. Specifically, on or about December 1, 2011, in the Superior Court of California, County of Solano, Case Number VCR208653, entitled *The People of the State of California v. Bliss Ezike*, Respondent was convicted by his plea of nolo contendere of violating Vehicle Code section 23103.5 (wet reckless), a misdemeanor. Respondent was placed on probation for 3 years upon terms and conditions, which included, but not limited to, the following: serve 10 days in County Jail, with credit for time served of 1 day; obey all laws and orders of the Court; report all arrests, citations, or violations of law to the Court within 48 hours; do not drive without a valid license and minimum liability insurance; show proof of enrollment in Wet Reckless Program within 60

days; and show proof of completion to the Court of Wet Reckless Program by June 1, 2012. The factual circumstances of the conviction are as follows:

- a. On or about August 12, 2010, in Vallejo, California, a California Highway Patrol (CHP) police officer responded to a traffic collision, and contacted Respondent, the driver of the vehicle involved in the collision. After the traffic collision, Respondent was driven from the collision scene by a male witness who had witnessed the collision after it occurred. Respondent then asked the witness to return to his (Respondent's) vehicle because he had forgotten his cell phone. After returning to the collision scene, Respondent denied to the CHP officer that he was the driver of the car involved in the collision. Later, Respondent told the CHP officer that he was the driver, and stated that he was just scared because he had been drinking and did not want to "pay another fine for DUI or take any more classes." Respondent told the CHP officer that he had consumed "some alcohol" before the collision, and that he remembers driving, but did not recall how the traffic collision occurred because he had had too much to drink. The CHP officer smelled the odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from Respondent, and noticed his red and watery eyes, and slurred speech. Respondent was injured in the collision. The witness told another CHP officer, that besides himself, Respondent was the only one there at the collision scene.
- b. Respondent refused to answer a series of pre-field sobriety test questions or take field sobriety tests. Respondent refused to submit to a breath test of his blood alcohol content (BAC). Based upon the witness statements, Respondent's admissions, and the CHP officer's observation of Respondent's objective symptoms of intoxication, the CHP officer arrested Respondent for driving under the influence of alcohol. Respondent was then transported to a hospital because of his injuries, and a blood test was taken, which showed that his BAC was .13 percent.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION

((Unprofessional Conduct - Used Alcohol to a Dangerous Extent) (Bus. & Prof. Code §4521. subd. (a)(5))

11. The allegations of paragraph 10 are realleged and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth.

12. Respondent has subjected his Psychiatric Technician License to disciplinary action under section 4521, subdivision (a)(5), of the Code on the grounds of unprofessional conduct in that on or about August 12, 2010, Respondent used alcohol to an extent or in a manner dangerous or injurious to himself, any other person, or the public, as set forth in paragraph 10, above.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION

(Unprofessional Conduct - Conviction Involving Alcohol) (Bus. & Prof. Code §4521. subd. (a)(6))

- 13. The allegations of paragraphs 10 are realleged and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth.
- 14. Respondent has subjected his Psychiatric Technician License to disciplinary action under section 4521, subdivision (a)(6), of the Code on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about December 1, 2011, Respondent was convicted of a crime involving the consumption of alcohol, as set forth in paragraph 10, above.

OTHER MATTERS

- 15. To determine the degree of penalty to be imposed on Respondent, if any, Complainant makes the following allegations:
- a. On or about April 9, 2009, in the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, Case Number 09T01805, entitled *The People of the State of California v. Bliss Unaka*, Respondent was convicted by his plea of nolo contendere of violating Vehicle Code section 23152, subdivision (b) (driving with a blood alcohol content of .08% or more), a misdemeanor. Respondent was placed on probation upon terms and conditions, which included, but not limited to, the following: serve 17 days in County Jail, with credit for time served of 1 day; and enroll in and complete the First Offender DUI Program.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians issue a decision:

1. Revoking or suspending Psychiatric Technician License Number PT 36055, issued to Respondent;

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1	2. Ordering Respondent to pay the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric
2	Technicians the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to
3	Business and Professions Code section 125.3; and
4	3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.
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7	TERESA BELLO-JONES, J.D., M.S.N., R.N.
8	Executive Officer Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians
9	Department of Consumer Affairs State of California
10	Complainant
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